

Border 2012 U.S. – Mexico Environmental Program

Priorities and Future Actions
Goal 2: Reduce Air Pollution





Goal 2: Reduce Air Pollution

- Objective 1: By 2012 or sooner, reduce air emissions as much as possible toward attainment of respective national ambient air quality standards, and reduce exposure in the border region . . .
 - Interim Objective 1: By 2003, define baseline and alternative scenarios for emissions reductions along the border, and their impacts on air quality and human exposure.
 - Interim Objective 2: By 2004, define specific emission reductions strategies and air quality and exposure objectives to be achieved by 2012.

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Identifying Air Quality Related Priorities for the Border Region

- Process to identify border air quality related priorities began in October 2004 with first APF meeting in Tijuana and continued with second APF meeting in April 2005 in Tucson.
- Over 80 border air quality and health stakeholders worked together to generate and refine a list of broad recommendations (alternative scenarios) based on 4 guiding principles:
 - Relevance to B2012 air quality objectives, including understanding of the impact or risk to environmental health and ability to minimize that risk
 - Relative investment
 - Leveraging potential
 - Achievability

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Air Quality Priorities

- Improve information exchange and outreach to address the lack of real-time, high quality air quality monitoring and health surveillance data availability and compatibility.
- Support a cross-border approach to addressing air quality management in the various transboundary airsheds throughout the US-Mexico border region.
- Reduce particulate matter (PM) emissions through:
 - (a) Reducing emissions from diesel sources
 - (b) Increasing the availability of ultra low sulfur diesel in the border region

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Air Quality Priorities cont.

- Address the need to build capacity by providing workshops/training sessions related to:
 - emission inventories
 - inspection and maintenance programs
 - financial and market-based mechanisms:
 - revolving funds
 - clean air investment fund (CAIF)
 - leveraging NADBank projects and funds
 - supplemental environmental projects (SEPs)
 - emissions trading
 - best management practices regarding:
 - energy efficiency and conservation
 - agricultural practices, including open burning
 - other open burning
 - road dust

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2006-2007 Borderwide Air Quality Priority Actions

Reduce Truck Emissions Through Voluntary Measures Such As The SmartWay Transport Partnership

- EPA/SEMARNAT workshop will be held in mid-2006 on developing voluntary, public-private partnerships with the freight industry (truck and rail) to achieve energy savings and reduce harmful emissions.
- The workshop will allow the U.S. and Mexico to learn from each other by sharing experiences in the freight sector, and will provide Mexico with a new tool to reduce pollution from mobile sources.
- In just two years, SmartWay companies in the U.S. are on pace to:
 - Save 284 million gallons of fuel per year.
 - Reduce 3.1 million tons of carbon dioxide, 22,000 tons of nitrogen oxide, and 800 tons of particulate matter emissions per year by 2007.

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2006-2007 Borderwide Air Quality Priority Actions

Build on existing efforts to catalyze incentive-based emission reduction efforts in the border region:

- Identify cost-effective technological approaches and match those approaches with border specific targets of opportunity.
- Identify the options/mechanisms available to finance projects.
- Identifying potential project partners.

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2006-2007 Priority Actions: TX-New Mexico-Mexico Region

- In the El Paso-Ciudad Juarez-Dona Ana County airshed, the Joint Advisory Committee for Air Quality Improvement (JAC) will continue to focus on:
 - Addressing air quality based on the “One Air Basin “ principle:
 - Standardizing monitoring, forecasting and data collection and dissemination
 - Defining the span of the Paso del Norte air basin
 - Maintaining a standardized emissions inventory
 - Producing joint modeling
 - Harmonizing air quality standards and management / control programs
 - Dust control initiatives
 - Comprehensive mobile source emission reductions

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2006-2007 Priority Actions: TX-New Mexico-Mexico Region cont.

Regarding Air Quality Management Planning:

- Produce the first significant update of the air quality management plan (PROAIRE) for Ciudad Juarez, including focused themes recommended by the JAC.
- As El Paso City-County obtains compliance status for CO, O3 and PM --- produce air quality maintenance plans to address the impacts of pollutant transport from neighboring jurisdictions.
- Leverage existing infrastructure, framework, and institutional capacity and communications capability to implement an information program for reducing emissions and human exposure to harmful fumes.

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2006-2007 Priority Actions: TX-New Mexico-Mexico region cont.

Regarding Pollution Reduction Projects:

- Target air toxic emissions through industry pollution prevention initiatives.
- Reduce exposure from solid waste (trash, tire) burning.
- Reduce exposure to toxic gasoline fumes and diesel emissions at ports of entry that are “hot spots”.

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2006-2007 Priority Actions: CA-Baja CA and AZ-Sonora Regions

Particulate Matter Reductions Through:

- Road paving projects in the Municipios of Tijuana, Sonoyta, Puerto Penasco and San Luis Rio Colorado funded through the BECC.
- Creating an emissions inventory for parking lots in Imperial County with the objective of requiring the owners of these sites to comply with Best Available Control Measures.
- Environmental brick kiln projects in Northern Baja and San Luis, Sonora with the goal of PM and toxics emissions reductions and reduced exposure to these emissions.

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2006-2007 Priority Actions: CA-Baja CA and AZ-Sonora Regions cont.

Efforts to Reduce Diesel Emissions:

- Through a SmartWay partnership, install diesel oxidation catalysts and other retrofits on Mexican trucks in Mexicali and Tijuana.
- Biodiesel capacity building and demonstration project to increase the local production and use of biodiesel in Ambos Nogales and Rio Rico, Arizona

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2006-2007 Priority Actions: CA-Baja CA and AZ-Sonora Regions Cont.

Ambient Monitoring and Data Access:

- Real Time Website enhancements in Imperial County and Northern Baja.
- Ambient PM and Toxics Monitoring Study will assess the affects of PM and toxic air pollutants on the residents of Yuma, Arizona and San Luis, Sonora.

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